



ARIZONA HUMAN TRAFFICKING COUNCIL MINUTES

December 7, 2016

9:00 AM

1700 West Washington Street,
Governor's 2nd Floor Conference Room
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

A meeting of the Arizona Human Trafficking Council (Council) was convened on December 7, 2016 at 9:05 AM in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, 1700 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. Notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the Council:

Members Present

Gil Orrantia (Co-Chairperson)	Zora Manjencich
Heather Carter	Gary McCarthy
Vinny Chulani	Greg McKay (via phone)
Doug Coleman	Frank Milstead
Robert Conrad	Dominique Roe-Sepowitz
Jon Eliason	Brian Steele
Joseph Kelroy	Jim Waring

Members Absent

Cindy McCain (Co-Chairperson)	Debbie Johnson
Allie Bones	Carolyn Jones
Nathanial Brown	Sheila Polk
Cara Christ	
Tanya Cordor	

Staff Present

Debbie Moak
Myriah Mhoon
Terrilyn Miller
Steve Selover
Jenna Shoyer

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Gil Orrantia called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Gil Orrantia welcomed those in attendance and then asked for a moment of silence in honor of the Pearl Harbor Remembrance. Mr. Orrantia asked the Council members to briefly introduce themselves.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION)

Minutes from the November 1, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz motioned to approve the November 1, 2016 minutes as drafted. The motion was seconded by Col. Frank Milstead. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. AMBER ALERT TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Sergeant Byron Fassett, Dallas Police Department, introduced himself and explained that he coordinated trafficking taskforces in Dallas. Sergeant Fassett provided a brief introduction to the Amber Alert Training Program and available tools to address labor trafficking. He acknowledged that information and training on labor trafficking was limited and needs to be expanded. Sergeant Fassett recommended that the Council consider a symposium on unaccompanied minors and labor trafficking.

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz offered to help provide additional data and research on labor trafficking to strengthen current trainings.

5. TUCSON POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAFFICKING AND DEMAND INTERVENTION EFFORTS

Sergeant Dan Spencer, Tucson Police Department, stated that in 2015, the Tucson Police Department received a grant from the US Department of Justice to enhance collaboration to combat human trafficking. The grant allowed the Tucson human trafficking task force to invest time and money in new software and collaborate with Arizona State University to develop a response to trafficked youth. The grant also allowed for a closer evaluation of evidentiary trends of buyers. Sergeant Dan Spencer stated that previous to receiving the grant, 10 buyers were taken into custody per quarter and now 5-10 are arrested per week. In the last 90 days, over 1,400 buyers have been arrested.

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz inquired about any education offered to buyers that are arrested.

Sergeant Spencer responded that they debrief buyers with a series of questions to better understand behavior. He offered to collaborate with Dr. Roe-Sepowitz to further evaluate the data.

Ms. Debbie Moak commended Sergeant Spencer and stated that the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family is creating an assessment for at-risk youth to help identify trafficking victims.

Mr. Orrantia asked if there was a unit that previously investigated human trafficking cases in Tucson.

Sergeant Spencer stated that in 2008, the vice unit was disbanded due to finances. In 2014, a new task force was developed to proactively investigate trafficking cases.

6. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING MODULE

Mr. David Stilchen and Ms. Shanna Parker, Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES), presented on a new interactive computer-based training module to deliver basic sex and labor trafficking training. The 30 minute module teaches participants how to recognize and report human trafficking and includes a 16 question assessment that must be passed with a score of 80%. All DES employees will be required to complete the training.

Representative Heather Carter asked if there is a mechanism to track the data from the trainings.

Ms. Parker explained that DES was in the process of developing a system for tracking the data.

Representative Carter then asked if the training can be used to educate other entities, such as educators.

Ms. Parker responded that it was plausible; however, the training would need to be modified to include teacher specific indicators and information.

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz recommended that the training include citations for the referenced statistics and offered to assist.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy Committee

Mr. Brian Steele stated that the committee is planning a series of service provider meetings to discuss and develop recommendations for improving billing and licensing processes.

Mr. Steel also noted stated that 12.6 million is spent helping heal human trafficking survivors in Arizona. In Phoenix, there will be 22 new beds available in 2017, in addition to the 28 beds currently available for adult human trafficking victims. Mr. Steele commended Mr. Jim Warring on his support to keep the human trafficking awareness agenda alive.

Mr. Jim Warring thanked Mr. Steele and mentioned that the city of Phoenix approved the development of the Starfish House for human trafficking survivors and their families. Mr. Warring stated that the Starfish House will be the first of its kind in the nation.

Training Committee

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz announced that ASU's Office on Sex Trafficking Intervention and Research (STIR), in collaboration with the McCain Institute, created a human trafficking education program for teachers and administrators. Dr. Roe-Sepowitz explained that the online toolkit contains resources and lesson plans for teachers. Schools that participate in the program will receive a "Star Fish" certificate after a successful training.

8. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Ms. Carrie Closer stated that Rebecca Bender will be in Arizona on January 18th-29th to share her story.

9. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:39 AM.